Lewis Tappan
May 20 — 41

New York, May 20/41 Br.

Dr Bro Phelps,

The Liberated Africans can not go to Boston — at present — after all! After making all needful preparations for them to leave this city — for Phila — this morning — and to be in Boston early next week a special messenger arrived from Hartford last evening — Mr Williams (Care of the Com: at Farmington) to say that the Africans were expected at Hartford today — a meeting had been advertised there a long time — the Legislature were in session — the Anti Slavery Society holding a meeting — the Ladies a Fair &c &c &c And in addition that the 20 Africans left at Farmington were greatly excited because Cinque & the others were so long absent, and could not be pacified. After a strong effort to persuade Mr Williams that we must go to Phila & Boston we had to give up the argument & consent that Cinque & one more should accompany him today to Hartford. It is a grievous disappointment, but all the whole seemed the proper course. I dispatched a messenger to Phila this morning to make the needful explanations.

Our plan is to have them return here on Saturday — go to Phila on Monday — hold 2 or 3 meetings there & then go back to Farmington. The meetings at Boston must, for aught I see, be deferred till some future time.

We should not have written to you to be present at Phila unless we had understood Mr

W. Thay has not arrived at Farmington but we suppose he will be there this week. They have made a good impression & Cinque & Kale are much liked. He draws & writes Spanish.